

WATCH YE...

1 Cor. 16:13-14

I. Be alert.

- v. 13 *Watch ye* Present imperative. Be on alert. Be vigilant...field aware...keep your eyes open...always be on your guard... don't shut your eyes or turn your head the other way for even one moment.
1. Second coming. Matt 25:13; Luke 12:37
 2. Temptation. Matt 26:41
 3. Accountability – Judgment Seat. Luke 21:36
 4. Wrong influence in the church. Acts 20:29-30
 5. Spiritual lives. Matt 13:15; 1 Thess 5:6; 1 Pet 5:8-9
 6. Ministry. 2 Tim 4:5; John 4:35; Rev 16:15

2. Take a stand.

... *in the faith*. Whole embodiment of truth as found in the Word of God. Not just saving faith.

Idea: Be firm, unwavering, unyielding in your defense of the truths of God's Word. Don't back off your convictions.

Morris: *this points to the stability of the Christian firmly grounded in Christ, a stability distressingly absent from the Corinthians.*

Don't be moved by false doctrines or by loose morals.

Jude 1:3; Tim 6:12; Phil 1:27; 2 Thess 2:15

3. Be a man.

Quit you like grow up, be mature, be a man, quit acting like a baby!

Wiersbe: ...*it was a call to courageous manliness at an hour when mature leadership was needed.*

Chap 3-- immature Christians.

1. Attitude: carnal, envy, strife, divisions, cliquishness.
2. Diet: milk of the Word..can't digest meat.
3. Life-style. little difference between own lifestyle and that of world.
4. Little discernment. 1 Cor 2:15.....judgeth all things.
2 Pet 3:18; 1 Pet 2:2; Eph 4:13; Eph 4:14 Eph 4:15; Col 2:7

4. Be strong. Firm, fixed, steadfast.

Eph 6:10 inner, spiritual growth. Passive voice: we cannot strengthen ourselves but we must be strengthened...it is the Lord's job to strengthen us...our job is to yield. 2 Tim 2:1 *Grace*: energizing power and supernatural desire that God supernaturally gives the Christian to effectively live out the Christian life.

He only gives grace to humble. Ja 4:6

God's way of making a person strong is completely opposite to the world's way of **thinking**. 1 Cor 1:27; 2 Cor 12:9; 2 Cor 12:10; 1 Cor 10:12

5. Be loving. 1 Cor 16:14

Motives. Let everything you do be done out of a total giving, sacrificial, with no desire for personal gain, love.

Love for God & others

Matt 22:37-40 Main manifestation of a person's relationship with God--love.

John 13:35; John 15:12; 1 Thess 3:12-13; 1 Pet 1:22; 1 John 2:10

Of a professing Christian not manifest this type of love he/she not genuinely a born-again child of God.

This 5th principle really encompasses all the other four...

Mac: *Love complements and balances everything else. It is the beautiful, softening principle. It keeps our firmness from becoming hardness and our strength from becoming domineering. It keeps our maturity gentle and considerate. It keeps our right doctrine from becoming obstinate dogmatism and our right living from becoming smug self-righteousness.*

So what?

1. Be Alert
2. Take a stand
3. Be a man
4. Be strong
5. Be loving